



Agrostis oresbia

Common Name(s):

mountain bent

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island (Raukumara, Ruahine and Tararua Ranges). South Island, North-West Nelson (Lake Aorere and Mt Domett only)

Habitat:

A subalpine to alpine species frequenting damp seepages and water courses within tussock grassland and on rocky ground, shaded cliff faces or screes, occasionally on river flats.

Features*:

Tufted or stoloniferous plants 50-250 mm, culms overtopping leaves. Leaf-sheath hyaline, light green to light brown, prominently ribbed, smooth, rarely with prickly teeth. Ligule 1-4.5 mm, truncate to obtuse, denticulate or entire, glabrous. Leaf-blade 20-70 x 1.5-2 mm, flat or folded, undersides smooth, upper prominently ribbed, margins usually smooth, sometimes sparsely to densely, scabrid, apex tapered, blunt, scabrid. Culm erect, internodes glabrous. Panicle (15-)20-60 mm, open, lax, oblong to pyramidal, with spreading or flexuous branches; rachis smooth, branches and pedicels smooth or scabrid. Spikelets 2-2.5(-3) mm, purplish. Glumes unequal, acute to acuminate, keel scabrid near apex, margins smooth, sometimes scabrid near apex; lower, 2-2.5(-3) mm, ovate-lanceolate, upper 1.7-2.5(-3) mm, elliptic-lanceolate. Lemma 1.5-2 mm, glabrous, faintly 5-nerved, ovate, obtuse; awn (1.5-)2-3 mm, geniculate, slightly projecting beyond glumes. Callus with minute hairs. Anthers 0.4-0.9 mm.

Flowering:

unknown

Fruiting:

unknown

Threats:

Not threatened but rather a naturally uncommon species of spradic occurrence which is why it has been listed

***Attribution:**

Description modified from Edgar and Connor (2000).

References and further reading:

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Christchurch, Manaaki Whenua Press. 650 pp.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

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